



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service

# Louisiana Farm Reporter

Volume 11 Number 7

April 6, 2011



Cooperating with the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry

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## HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS REPORT

Prospective Plantings for 2011  
Grain & Rice Stocks: March 1, 2011  
February Livestock Slaughter  
Average Prices Received by Farmers

## Louisiana Prospective Plantings For 2011

Louisiana farmers' 2011 planting intentions reflect the price and economic changes seen in the past year. Planting intentions for sorghum nearly doubled from the previous year, and Louisianans can expect to see more cotton in the state due to a projected fourteen percent increase from the 2010 acreage. Expectations for corn, soybeans, wheat and sweet potato acreages are also up from 2010, but rice acreage is expected to decrease.

The prospective planting intentions reflect the current economic and weather conditions as of March 1. Actual acreage planted may increase or decrease based on what happens during the rest of the planting season. NASS will conduct a June 1 survey to update planted acreage estimates and will release estimates from that survey on June 30, 2011.

**Cotton** growers intend to plant 290,000 acres of upland cotton, up 35,000 acres (14 percent) from a year ago.

Louisiana's **corn** farmers expect to plant 520,000 acres, up 10,000 acres (two percent) from a year ago.

**Grain sorghum** intentions indicate acreage will total 160,000 acres in the state, up 78,000 acres (95 percent) from 2010.

Louisiana's **soybean** planted acreage is expected to increase by 20,000 acres (two percent) from last year, to 1.05 million acres.

**Rice** planted acreage in Louisiana is expected to decrease to 470,000 acres, down 70,000 acres (13 percent) from last year. Long grain varieties are expected to account for 420,000 acres. Producers intend to plant 50,000 acres of medium grain varieties.

**Sweet potato** planted acreage in the state is expected to total 14,000 acres, up 500 acres (four percent) from last year.

**Winter wheat** acreage seeded last fall is estimated at 200,000 acres, up 75,000 acres (60 percent) from seedings for the 2010 crop.

An estimated 400,000 acres of **hay** will be harvested, down 50,000 acres (11 percent) from last year.

The first 2011 estimate of **sugarcane** acreage for harvest will be available on June 30, 2011.

## United States Prospective Plantings

All **cotton** plantings for 2011 are expected to total 12.6 million acres, 15 percent above last year. **Upland acreage** is expected to total 12.3 million acres, up 14 percent from 2010. **American Pima** acreage is expected to total 252,500 acres, up 24 percent from 2010. Cotton acreage increases are expected in every state.

**Corn** growers intend to plant 92.2 million acres of corn for all purposes in 2011, up five percent from last year and seven percent higher than in 2009. If realized, this will be the second highest planted acreage in the United States since 1944, behind only the 93.5 million acres planted in 2007.

**Sorghum** growers intend to plant 5.6 million acres of sorghum for all purposes in 2011, up four percent from 2010. Producers in Kansas expect to plant 2.5 million acres this year, up six percent from 2010. Texas growers expect to plant 1.8 million acres, down five percent from the previous season.

**Soybean** growers intend to plant an estimated 76.6 million acres in 2011, down one percent from last year. If realized, the United States planted area will be the third largest on record. Compared with last year, planted acreage is down or unchanged across most of the Corn Belt, the central and southern Great Plains, and most of the Southeast.

**Rice** area planted to rice in 2011 is expected to total three million acres, down 17 percent from 2010. Acreage in all rice-producing states except California is expected to decrease from the previous year.

**Sweet potato** plantings are expected to total 126,700 acres for the 2011 season, up six percent from last year.

All **wheat** planted area is estimated at 58.0 million acres, up eight percent from last year. The 2011 **winter wheat** planted area, at 41.2 million acres, is ten percent above last year and up one percent from the previous estimate. Of this total, about 29.4 million acres are Hard Red Winter, 8.2 million acres are Soft Red Winter, and 3.7 million are White Winter.

**Hay** producers expect to harvest 59.0 million acres of all hay in 2011, down one percent from 2010. If realized, this will be the fourth lowest harvested acreage on record. Harvested area is expected to decrease from last year throughout most of the western two-thirds of the Nation, primarily due to lower livestock inventories, an increase in acreage being planted to other crops with higher prices, and drought conditions in the Southern Great Plains.

## Prospective Plantings: Louisiana and United States, March 1, 2011, with 2010 Comparisons

Crop	Louisiana			United States		
	2010	2011	% Change	2010	2011	% Change
	-----Thousand Acres-----			-----Thousand Acres-----		
Corn	510	520	+2	88,192	92,178	+5
All Cotton	255	290	+14	10,973.2	12,565.5	+15
All Rice	540	470	-13	3,636	3,018	-17
Sorghum	82	160	+95	5,404	5,645	+4
Soybeans	1,030	1,050	+2	77,404	76,609	-1
Sweet potatoes	13.5	14	+4	119.8	126.7	+6
All Wheat	125	200	+60	53,603	58,021	+8
Hay <sup>1</sup>	450	400	-11	59,862	58,973	-1

<sup>1</sup> Harvesting intentions.

## Louisiana Grain Stocks

**Corn** stocks stored off-farm on March 1, 2011, at 22.7 million bushels, were down 12 percent from last year's 25.7 million bushels. On-farm stocks for Louisiana are not published separately but are included in the U. S. total.

**Soybeans** stocks stored off-farm on March 1, 2011, at 5.4 million bushels, were down 46 percent from last year's 9.9 million bushels. On-farm stocks for Louisiana are not published separately but are included in the U. S. total.

**All wheat** stocks stored off-farm on March 1, 2011, at 5.1 million bushels, were down 37 percent from last year's 7.7 million bushels. On-farm stocks for Louisiana are not published separately but are included in the U. S. total.

## Louisiana Rice Stocks

**Rough rice** stocks in all positions on March 1, 2011, totaled 11.9 million cwt, up 20 percent from the total on March 1, 2010. On-farm stocks of rice were estimated at 4.9 million cwt, compared to 4.6 million the previous year. Off-farm totaled seven million cwt, up 31 percent from last year.

## Louisiana and U.S. Grain Stocks, March 1, 2010 - 2011

Item	Louisiana <sup>1</sup>		United States	
	March 1		March 1	
	2010	2011	2010	2011
	-----Thousand Bushels-----		-----Thousand Bushels-----	
<b>Corn</b>				
On-Farm			4,548,000	3,384,000
Off-Farm <sup>2</sup>	<u>25,667</u>	<u>22,708</u>	<u>3,145,787</u>	<u>3,138,804</u>
Total			7,693,787	6,522,804
<b>Sorghum</b>				
On-Farm			23,680	13,020
Off-Farm <sup>2</sup>	<u>2,154</u>	<u>3/</u>	<u>151,873</u>	<u>157,802</u>
Total			175,553	170,822
<b>Soybeans</b>				
On-Farm			609,200	505,000
Off-Farm <sup>2</sup>	<u>9,942</u>	<u>5,366</u>	<u>660,868</u>	<u>743,885</u>
Total			1,270,068	1,248,885
<b>All-Wheat</b>				
On-Farm			348,250	288,010
Off-Farm <sup>2</sup>	<u>7,733</u>	<u>5,127</u>	<u>1,008,107</u>	<u>1,136,548</u>
Total			1,356,357	1,424,558

<sup>1</sup> Louisiana on farm stocks and total stocks not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

<sup>2</sup> Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals, and processors.

<sup>3</sup> Not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

## Louisiana Rice Stocks

Date	On Farm	Off Farm <sup>1</sup>	Total All Positions
	(Domestic Units – 1,000 Cwt)		
	Rough Rice		
March 1, 2010	4,550	5,391	9,941
August 1, 2010	200	1,757	1,957
December 1, 2010	10,500	9,134	19,634
March 1, 2011	4,900	7,039	11,939

## United States Rice Stocks

Date	On Farm	Off Farm	Total All Positions
	(Domestic Units – 1,000 Cwt)		
	Rough Rice		
March 1, 2010	23,465	80,516	103,981
August 1, 2010	1,200	29,176	30,376
December 1, 2010	63,617	109,869	173,486
March 1, 2011	33,895	86,720	120,615
Date	Milled Rice		
	March 1, 2010	4,895	4,895
	August 1, 2010	4,380	4,380
	December 1, 2010	6,302	6,302
	March 1, 2011	6,275	6,275

<sup>1</sup> Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, ports and in transit.

## Louisiana Livestock Slaughter

**Commercial red meat production** in Louisiana during February totaled 500,000 pounds, up 25 percent from the previous month but the same as the previous year.

There were 400 head of **cattle** slaughtered during February, unchanged from January and the same as the previous year. Average live weight was 839 pounds, up 82 pounds from the previous month and 39 pounds above February 2010. Total live weight, at 369,000 pounds, was up 12 percent from the previous month and four percent above the previous year.

**Calves** slaughtered during February totaled 300 head, down 100 head from January and the previous year. Live weight averaged 541 pounds, up 20 pounds from January but one pound below a year ago. Total live weight, at 180,000 pounds, was down 15 percent from January and 25 percent below the previous year.

The number of **hogs** slaughtered during February totaled 1,000 head, up 200 head from the previous month but 200 head below February 2010. Average live weight was 189 pounds, up four pounds from January and one pound above the previous year. Total live weight was 184,000 pounds, up 23 percent from January but 15 percent below the previous year.

The number of **sheep** slaughtered during February was 300 head, up 100 head from the previous month but the same as the previous year. Live weight averaged 69 pounds, up 11 pounds from the previous month but 19 pounds below the previous year.

## United States Livestock Slaughter

**Commercial red meat production** for the United States totaled 3.8 billion pounds in February, up two percent from the 3.7 billion pounds produced in February 2010.

**February 2011** contained 20 weekdays (including one holiday) and four Saturdays. **February 2010** contained 20 weekdays (including one holiday) and four Saturdays.

**Beef production**, at two billion pounds, was three percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.6 million head, up three percent from February 2010. The average live weight was up one pound from the previous year, at 1,286 pounds.

**Veal production** totaled 10.5 million pounds, two percent below February a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 68,800 head, down seven percent from February 2010. The average live weight was up 17 pounds from last year, at 264 pounds.

**Pork production** totaled 1.8 billion pounds, up one percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 8.5 million head, down two percent from February 2010. The average live weight was up seven pounds from the previous year, at 277 pounds.

**Lamb and mutton production**, at 10.9 million pounds, was down 12 percent from February 2010. Sheep slaughter totaled 155,100 head, 13 percent below last year. The average live weight was 141 pounds, up one pound from February a year ago.

**January to February 2011 commercial red meat production** was 7.9 billion pounds, up three percent from 2010. Accumulated beef production was up three percent from last year, veal was down five percent, pork was up three percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 12 percent.

## Commercial Livestock Slaughter and Red Meat Production

Item	Louisiana					United States			
	January	February		January – February		February		January – February	
	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011	2010	2011
	----- Number, thousand head -----					----- Number, thousand head -----			
Cattle	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.8	0.8	2,546.8	2,622.3	5,252.2	5,357.6
Calves	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.9	0.7	74.0	68.8	156.8	140.6
Hogs	0.8	1.2	1.0	2.0	1.8	8,691.3	8,508.6	17,598.3	17,613.2
Sheep & Lambs	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.5	178.9	155.1	365.4	316.2
	----- Total live weight, thousand pounds -----					----- Total live weight, thousand pounds -----			
Cattle	329	355	369	641	698	3,260,196	3,360,198	6,740,799	6,905,074
Calves	211	241	180	497	391	18,054	17,702	37,528	35,980
Hogs	149	217	184	378	333	2,347,377	2,358,576	4,765,204	4,888,301
Sheep & Lambs	12	24	18	40	30	24,971	21,842	50,676	44,143
	----- Average live weight, pounds -----					----- Average live weight, pounds -----			
Cattle	757	800	839	801	873	1,285	1,286	1,288	1,294
Calves	521	542	541	552	559	247	264	243	263
Hogs	185	188	189	189	185	270	277	271	278
Sheep & Lambs	58	88	69	80	60	140	141	139	140
	----- Million pounds -----					----- Million pounds -----			
Red Meat	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.9	0.9	3,735.8	3,811.3	7,653.4	7,853.1

## Average Prices Received by Farmers: Louisiana and United States

Item	Louisiana			United States		
	Entire Month		Preliminary	Entire Month		Preliminary
	March	February	March	March	February	March
	2010	2011	2011 <sup>1</sup>	2010	2011	2011 <sup>1</sup>
	----- Dollars -----			----- Dollars -----		
Sorghum, per cwt	2/	2/	2/	5.68	10.90	10.10
Soybeans, per bushel	2/	12.50	2/	9.39	12.70	12.10
Rice, per cwt	13.90	12.90	12.70	14.30	13.20	13.90
Upland Cotton, per pound	.633	.777	2/	.650	.927	.817 <sup>3</sup>
Hay, all, baled, per ton	n/a	n/a	n/a	107.00	116.00	124.00
Beef Cattle, per cwt <sup>4</sup>	64.10	5/	5/	90.40	108.00	113.00
Steers & Heifers, per cwt	96.50	5/	5/	95.70	111.00	116.00
Cows, per cwt <sup>6</sup>	51.50	5/	5/	53.50	72.50	73.40
Calves, per cwt	108.00	5/	5/	117.00	139.00	148.00
Broilers, live, per pound	n/a	n/a	n/a	.490	.440	.490
Eggs, all, per dozen	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.160	.954	.848
Milk, all, per cwt <sup>7</sup>	n/a	n/a	n/a	14.80	19.10	20.40

<sup>1</sup> Mid-month.

<sup>2</sup> Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual firms.

<sup>3</sup> Preliminary prices are based on sales during the first half of the month.

<sup>4</sup> "Cows" and "steers and heifers" combined.

<sup>5</sup> Estimates discontinued in 2011.

<sup>6</sup> Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.

<sup>7</sup> Before deductions for hauling and government withholdings. Includes bulk tank, quantity and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.

n/a = not available.

### Prices Received Index Increased Four Points

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in March, at 174 percent, based on 1990-1992=100, increased four points from February. The Crop Index was up one point and the Livestock Index increased seven points. Producers received higher prices for cattle, broilers, milk and lettuce and lower prices for corn, soybeans, eggs and cotton. In addition to prices, the overall index was also affected by the seasonal change based on a three-year average mix of commodities producers sell. Increased monthly marketings of strawberries, soybeans, tomatoes and milk offset decreased marketings of cattle, corn, cotton and wheat.

The preliminary All Farm Products Index was up 33 points from March 2010. The Food Commodities Index, at 172, increased seven points from last month and 30 points from March 2010.

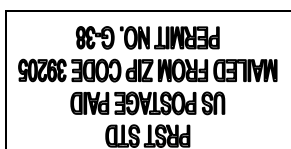
### Prices Paid Index Increased Two Points

The March Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates was 199 percent of the 1990-1992 average. The index was up two points from February and 19 points above March 2010. Higher prices in March for diesel, complete feeds, gasoline and feeder cattle more than offset lower prices for feed grains, herbicides, insecticides and fungicides/other.

*Louisiana Farm Reporter (USPS-0056-7670) is published semi-monthly (twice a month) by the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry, USDA-NASS Louisiana Field Office, 5825 Florida Blvd., Baton Rouge, La 70806. Subscription is free to respondents and cooperators, \$10.00 annually to all others, and is available from the above address. Postmaster: send changes of address to Louisiana Farm Reporter, P. O. Box 65038, Baton Rouge, LA 70896-5038*

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